

2. VICTORIAN REVIVAL



HISTORY

The Victorian architectural period in the United States spanned from 1860-1900. The Victorian style was popular in Virginia beginning with the Second Empire and predominately includes, Shingle Stick, Queen Anne, and Folk.

The style was popular with different classes from simple cottages of the 1860's, to the imposing North End mansions of the late 1800's. The Queen Anne Style is the most common style found in Colorado Springs, which was from 1880 to 1910. The same elements which first popularized the style, make it appropriate character for Northside.

ELEMENTS OF STYLE

Sawmill lumber (2x4's) was available for the first time. Mechanized sawmills provided decorative lumber for the window, porch railings and fanciful exterior details. This allows for a lightness of construction, which influenced the Victorian style.

High ceilings and tall windows create the airy quality and vertical proportions the style is known for. Steeply pitched roofs, and street-facing gables add character while adding to upper level living space. Large porches contributed to the neighborly feel of these houses. Asymmetrical facades and tall proportions characterize Victorian massing.

Porches on Victorian homes are characterized by elaborate, delicate wood detailing. The Victorian style also has special features such as bay windows, towers and cut-away bays.